REMARKS

Claim Status

Applicants acknowledge the withdrawal of the previous rejections over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0099388 to Chen et al.

Claims 1, 5, 7, and 12-15 are pending in the present application. No additional claims fee is believed to be due.

Rejection Under 35 USC §103(a) Over U.S. Patent Application Publication 2004/0099388 in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,507,173 and as evidenced by U.S. Patent No. 6,740,373

Claims 1, 5, 7, and 12-15 are rejected by the Examiner under 35 USC §103(a) as allegedly defining obvious subject matter over U.S. Patent Application Publication 2004/0099388 to Chen, et al. ("Chen") in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,507,173 to Klowak, et al. ("Klowak") and as evidenced by U.S. Patent No. 6,740,373 to Swoboda, et al. ("Swoboda"). The Examiner asserts that Chen teaches tissue products in roll form comprising a wet laid fibrous structure having a patterned three dimensional configuration of raised web portions molded into the web and projecting out of the surface. The Examiner further asserts that Chen teaches that its web is covered by an adhesive material. However, the Examiner recognizes that Chen does not teach that its adhesive material is substantially present in the high density regions of its tissue products. The Examiner asserts that Klowak teaches a fibrous tissue structure comprising a patterned web comprising a molded pattern of compressed areas (high density areas) and raised areas and a binding material applied to the surface thereof.

Applicants respectfully submit that Chen in view of Klowak as evidenced by Swoboda fails to teach each and every element of Claim 1, the independent claim, because Chen in view of Klowak as evidenced by Swoboda fails to teach a differential density fibrous structure comprising latex on the surface of the fibrous structure wherein more than 50% of the latex is present on high density regions of the differential density fibrous structure. Applicants submit that Klowak clearly teaches that its binding liquid is absorbed "substantially through the web in the compressed areas." Klowak, Abstract. Further, Klowak teaches that its binding liquid is "dispersed deeply into the compressed

areas of the web." Klowak, Col. 2, lines 24-26. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that Klowak fails to teach that 50% or more of its binding liquid in on the surface of the high density regions of its fibrous structure as is claimed in Claim 1. As a result, Applicants submit that Klowak fails to overcome the deficiencies of Chen. Accordingly, Applicants submit that Claim 1 is not rendered obvious over Chen in view of Klowak as evidenced by Swoboda. MPEP 2143.03. Further, Applicants submit that Claims 5, 7, and 12-15, which ultimately depend from Claim 1, are not rendered obvious over Chen in view of Klowak as evidenced by Swoboda. MPEP 2143.03.

Conclusion

This response represents an earnest effort to place the present application in proper form and to distinguish the invention as claimed from the applied reference(s). In view of the foregoing, reconsideration of this application, and allowance of the pending claim(s) are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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